

REMARKS

The Examiner's action of February 10, 2006 is noted in which Claims 5, 12 and 13 are objected to and in which Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 14-19 are rejected variously under 35 USC 112 and 35 USC 102.

The Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter is present if the limitations of Claims 5, 12 and 13 are inserted into respective independent claims. Applicant has done so and has also eliminated the 35 USC 112 objections to Claims 8, 9 and 17-19. Allowance of Claims 1-19 is therefore earnestly solicited.

Applicant has added Claims 20-28 to recite the fact that the narrow line width of the pumping energy introduced into the tunable optical parametric oscillator is the result of seeding.

The importance of this can be seen from the Specification, where it is said:

“However, this 20 nanometer line width can be even further reduced by using a narrow line width seed source. The result of using such a narrow line width seed source is to further narrow the output of the pumping optical parametric oscillator to between 4 and 5 nanometers or  $1.8 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in energy units. ... The seed in essence operates to kick start the parametric process in the optical parametric oscillator such that as the oscillator starts to oscillate, while it originally operates to build up and generate wavelengths from background noise, the seed provides photons of the appropriate signal wavelength so that upon activation there is a background of photons that rise up at once. ... Thus the seed provides photons inside the optical parametric oscillator cavity that are orders of magnitude more intense than the background noise, resulting in preferentially turning on the signal wavelength.”

Nowhere is this shown or taught in the Vadopyanov reference.

It is therefore Applicant's contention that Claims 20-28 are also in condition for allowance.

Allowance of the claims and issuance of the case are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert K. Tendler  
Reg. No.: 24,581  
65 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02110  
Tel: (617) 723-7268

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